

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A silicon based thin film solar cell, wherein a conductive conductive type silicon based low refractive index layer, a silicon based interface layer, and a back electrode are disposed and contact one another in this order on a backside of a photoelectric conversion layer observed from a light incident side, wherein the silicon based interface layer comprises a crystalline silicon component in the layer,

wherein the silicon based low refractive index layer comprises a crystalline silicon component in the layer.

wherein a most abundantly existing constituent element, excluding silicon, in the silicon based low refractive index layer is oxygen which is present in an amount not less than 25 atomic %, and

wherein the silicon based low refractive index layer has a thickness of not less than 300 angstroms.

2. (Original) The silicon based thin film solar cell according to Claim 1, wherein the silicon based low refractive index layer has a refractive index not more than 2.5 at a wavelength of 600 nm.

3-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The silicon based thin film solar cell according to Claim 1, wherein the silicon based interface layer has a thickness not more than 150 angstroms.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The silicon based thin film solar cell according to Claim 1, wherein the silicon based low refractive index layer and silicon based interface layer includes the same conductivity type.

10. (Cancelled)